

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination and search of the subject Patent Application and for finding allowable subject matter in Claims 15, 23-25, 38-40, and 41-55. Claims 1 and 26 have been amended. Claims 15, 16, 24, 31, 32, and 38 have been canceled.

Reconsideration of Claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 16, 17, 21, 22, 27, 29, 36, and 37 rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Quackenbush is requested based on Amended Claims 1, and 26, Canceled Claim 16, and on the following remarks.

Applicant has amended Claim 1 to now include the limitation of Claim 24, now Canceled. As such, Claim 1 now contains all the limitations of prior Claims 1 and 24 re-written into independent form including all of the limitations of the base Claim (former Claim 1) and of the dependent Claim (former Claim 24). Based on Examiner's comments regarding allowable subject matter, Amended Claim 1 should contain allowable subject matter and should not be rejected under 35 USC 102(b). Amended Claim 1 now reads:

1. (Currently Amended) A capacitor device comprising:

INT-03-012

a first plate comprising a conductive loaded, resin-based material comprising conductive materials substantially homogeneously mixed in a base resin host; and

5 a second plate fixably held nearby but not contacting said first plate such that said first plate and said second plate are capacitively coupled wherein one of said first and second plates further comprises a circuit trace on a molded circuit board.

In addition, Claims 3, 4, 8, 9, 17, 21, and 22 depend from now Amended Claim 1 and provide patentably distinct, further limitations on Amended Claim 1. Therefore, Claims 3, 4, 8, 9, 17, 21, and 22 should not be rejected under 35 USC 102(b) since Amended Claim 1 should be allowable.

Applicant has amended Claim 26 such that Claim 26 now includes the limitations of Claim 23. As such, Claim 26 now contains all the limitations of prior Claims 1 and 23 re-written into independent form including all of the limitations of the base Claim (former Claim 1) and of the dependent Claim (former Claim 23). Claim 38 has been canceled as now redundant. Based on Examiner's comments regarding allowable subject matter, Amended Claim 26 should contain allowable subject matter and should not be rejected under 35 USC 102(b). Amended Claim 26 now reads:

26. (Currently Amended) A capacitor device comprising:

a first plate comprising a conductive loaded, resin-based material comprising conductive materials

substantially homogeneously mixed in a base resin host and

5 wherein said conductive materials comprise stainless steel fiber;

a second plate comprising said conductive loaded, resin-based material; and

10 a solderable layer overlying part of said first and second plates.

~~a dielectric material between said first plate and said second plate wherein said first plate and said second plate are capacitively coupled.~~

In addition, Claims 27, 29, 36, and 37 depend from now Amended Claim 26 and provide patentably distinct, further limitations on Amended Claim 26. Therefore, Claims 27, 29, 36, and 37 should not be rejected under 35 USC 102(b) since Amended Claim 26 should be allowable.

Reconsideration of Claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 16, 17, 21, 22, 27, 29, 36, and 37 rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being

INT-03-012

anticipated by Quackenbush is requested based on Amended Claims 1, and 26, Canceled Claim 16, and on the above remarks.

Reconsideration of Claims 2, 11, 12, and 14, rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quackenbush in view of Watanabe et al is requested based on Amended Claim 1 and on the following remarks.

As described above, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to now include the limitation of Claim 24, now Canceled. As such, Claim 1 now contains all the limitations of prior Claim 24 re-written into independent form including all of the limitations of the base Claim (former Claim 1) and of the dependent Claim (former Claim 24). Based on Examiner's comments regarding allowable subject matter, Amended Claim 1 should contain allowable subject matter and should not be rejected under 35 USC 103(a).

In addition, Claims 2, 11, 12, and 14 depend from now Amended Claim 1 and provide patentably distinct, further limitations on Amended Claim 1. Therefore, Claims 2, 11, 12, and 14 should not be rejected under 35 USC 103(a) since Amended Claim 1 should be allowable.

INT-03-012

Reconsideration of Claims 2, 11, 12, and 14, rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quackenbush in view of Watanabe et al is requested based on Amended Claim 1 and on the above remarks.

Reconsideration of Claim 26 rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quackenbush in view of Watanabe et al and further in view of Yamaguchi is requested based on Amended Claims 26 and on the following remarks.

Applicant has amended Claim 26 such that Claim 26 now includes the limitations of Claim 23. As such, Claim 26 now contains all the limitations of prior Claims 1 and 23 re-written into independent form including all of the limitations of the base Claim (former Claim 1) and of the dependent Claim (former Claim 23). Claim 38 has been canceled as now redundant. Based on Examiner's comments regarding allowable subject matter, Amended Claim 26 should contain allowable subject matter and should not be rejected under 35 USC 103(a).

Reconsideration of Claim 26 rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quackenbush in view of Watanabe et al and further in view of Yamaguchi is requested based on Amended Claims 26 and on the above remarks.

Reconsideration of Claims 5, 6, 7, and 28 rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quackenbush in view of Azechi is requested based on Amended Claims 1 and 26 and on the following remarks.

Applicant has amended Claim 1 to now include the limitation of Claim 24, now Canceled. As such, Claim 1 now contains all the limitations of prior Claim 24 re-written into independent form including all of the limitations of the base Claim (former Claim 1) and of the dependent Claim (former Claim 24). Based on Examiner's comments regarding allowable subject matter, Amended Claim 1 should contain allowable subject matter and should not be rejected under 35 USC 103(a).

In addition, Claims 5, 6, and 7 depend from now Amended Claim 1 and provide patentably distinct, further limitations on Amended Claim 1. Therefore, Claims 5, 6, and 7 should not be rejected under 35 USC 103(a) since Amended Claim 1 should be allowable.

Applicant has amended Claim 26 such that Claim 26 now to includes the limitations of Claim 23. As such, Claim 26 now contains all the limitations of prior Claims 1 and 23 re-written

INT-03-012

into independent form including all of the limitations of the base Claim (former Claim 1) and of the dependent Claim (former Claim 23). Claim 38 has been canceled as now redundant. Based on Examiner's comments regarding allowable subject matter, Amended Claim 26 should contain allowable subject matter and should not be rejected under 35 USC 103(a).

In addition, Claims 28 depend from now Amended Claim 26 and provide patentably distinct, further limitations on Amended Claim 26. Therefore, Claims 28 should not be rejected under 35 USC 103(a) since Amended Claim 26 should be allowable.

Reconsideration of Claims 5, 6, 7, and 28 rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quackenbush in view of Azechi is requested based on Amended Claims 1 and 26 and on the above remarks.

Reconsideration of Claims 10, 18-20, 30, and 33-35 rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quackenbush is requested based on Amended Claims 1 and 26 and on the following remarks.

Applicant has amended Claim 1 to now include the limitation of Claim 24, now Canceled. As such, Claim 1 now contains all the

INT-03-012

limitations of prior Claim 24 re-written into independent form including all of the limitations of the base Claim (former Claim 1) and of the dependent Claim (former Claim 24). Based on Examiner's comments regarding allowable subject matter, Amended Claim 1 should contain allowable subject matter and should not be rejected under 35 USC 103(a).

In addition, Claims 10, and 18-20 depend from now Amended Claim 1 and provide patentably distinct, further limitations on Amended Claim 1. Therefore, Claims 10, and 18-20 should not be rejected under 35 USC 103(a) since Amended Claim 1 should be allowable.

Applicant has amended Claim 26 such that Claim 26 now to includes the limitations of Claim 23. As such, Claim 26 now contains all the limitations of prior Claims 1 and 23 re-written into independent form including all of the limitations of the base Claim (former Claim 1) and of the dependent Claim (former Claim 23). Claim 38 has been canceled as now redundant. Based on Examiner's comments regarding allowable subject matter, Amended Claim 26 should contain allowable subject matter and should not be rejected under 35 USC 103(a).



INT-03-012

In addition, Claims 30, and 33-35 depend from now Amended Claim 26 and provide patentably distinct, further limitations on Amended Claim 26. Therefore, Claims 30, and 33-35 should not be rejected under 35 USC 103(a) since Amended Claim 26 should be allowable.

Reconsideration of Claims 10, 18-20, 30, and 33-35 rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quackenbush is requested based on Amended Claims 1 and 26 and on the above remarks.

Reconsideration of Claims 13 rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quackenbush in view of Watanabe et al and Azechi et al is requested based on Amended Claim 1 and on the following remarks.

Applicant has amended Claim 1 to now include the limitation of Claim 24, now Canceled. As such, Claim 1 now contains all the limitations of prior Claim 24 re-written into independent form including all of the limitations of the base Claim (former Claim 1) and of the dependent Claim (former Claim 24). Based on Examiner's comments regarding allowable subject matter, Amended Claim 1 should contain allowable subject matter and should not be rejected under 35 USC 103(a).

In addition, Claim 13 depends from now Amended Claim 1 and provides a patentably distinct, further limitation on Amended Claim 1. Therefore, Claim 13 should not be rejected under 35 USC 103(a) since Amended Claim 1 should be allowable.

Reconsideration of Claims 13 rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quackenbush in view of Watanabe et al and Azechi et al is requested based on Amended Claim 1 and on the above remarks.

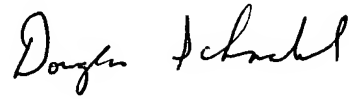
All Claims are believed to be in condition for Allowance, and that is so requested.

Applicants have reviewed the prior art made of record and not relied upon and have discussed their impact on the present invention above.

Allowance of all Claims is requested.

It is requested that should the Examiner not find that the Claims are now Allowable that the Examiner call the undersigned at 989-894-4392 to overcome any problems preventing allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Douglas R. Schnabel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Douglas R. Schnabel, Reg. No. 47,927